(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Such a provision exists in Section 9(3)(f) of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980.

(b) and (c) There is no provision in the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 for appointment of officer/employee as a Director in the Board of Directors in Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Further, at present there is no proposal to change the structure of Board of Directors of RRBs.

Levy of taxes by states

4208. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present Constitutional provision with regard to levy of taxes by States;

(b) whether Government are considering any proposal to amend the Constitution with a view to divest the States of such power; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The States levy taxes are per the subjects enumerated in List-II (State List) of the seventh schedule to the Constitution of India.

(b) and (c) At present, there is no proposal to amend the Constitution with a view to divest the States of such power.

Insurance cover for reconstruction of houses damaged due to natural calamities

4209. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insurance cover is provided to the poor people for reconstruction of their houses damaged due to natural calamities like fire, floods, cyclone, Tsunami, earthquake etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The General Insurance Companies, both